

REMARKS

Claims 1-36 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 20-30, 35 and 36 have been withdrawn from consideration pursuant to a restriction requirement. Claims 8, 9 and 11 have been cancelled and Claims 1, 3, 10, 12, and 16 have been amended. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, entry of the present Amendment is requested.

Referring to page 2 of the Office Action, Applicant affirms the election of Group I, Claims 1-19 and 31-34. Applicants will cancel the non-elected claims upon indication of allowance of the Group I claims.

On page 2 of the Office Action, Claims 16-19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Applicants have amended Claim 16 to address this criticism and submit that the claim now more clearly complies with the requirements of Section 112, second paragraph. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is requested.

Claims 1-9 and 31-34 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bowers et al. in view of European Patent Application No. 362,137.

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for the following reasons.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1 and 16, *inter alia*, as being unpatentable over Bowers et al. in view of European Patent Application No. 362,137. In view of the amendment to Claim 1, it is believed that this objection is moot. The Examiner has not referred to the features of Claims 8, 9 and 11. It is feature 11 which particularly provides a patentable distinction over this

combination of references. Further, Applicants respectfully submit that there is no motivation for combining the two references. EP '137 has no disclosure of coating polymers including ethylenically unsaturated pendant groups. It would therefore not be obvious to use polymers of Bowers in the process of EP '137.

In Claim 16, again, the element of the claim reciting that the coating polymer comprises ethylenically unsaturated pendant group, R¹⁵, is not disclosed in EP '137. It would therefore not be obvious to use the polymers of Bowers in the process of EP '137.

Further, the examples in the present application show that the coated polymers with ethylenically unsaturated groups now recited in both claims 1 and 16 confer particularly desirable properties in molded compositions of a wide variety.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

MUIR et al.
Appln. No. 09/743,397
Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Q62515

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

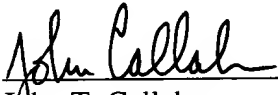
Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

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CUSTOMER NUMBER



John T. Callahan
Registration No. 32,607

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